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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Li Zhang  
Serial No.: 09/446,471  
Filing Date: March 24, 2000  
Title: FLUID PURIFICATION DEVICES AND METHODS  
EMPLOYING DEIONIZATION FOLLOWED BY IONIZATION  
FOLLOWED BY DEIONIZATION  
Art Unit: 1723  
Examiner: Fortuna, A.  
Atty. Docket No: 056246-0206 (IOLL-281)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 CFR 1.8(a) in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Date: 12/17/03

  
Weiguo Chen

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Applicants enclose herewith for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application the following documents:

- 1) Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
- 2) Response to Office Action;
- 3) Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time; and
- 4) Acknowledgment Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-1133.

Respectfully submitted,  
McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: 17 Dec 2003

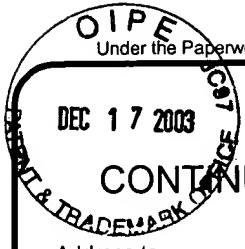
  
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12-18-3

RCE F

PTO/SB/30 (05-03)

Approved for use through 4/30/2003 OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/446,471
Filing Date	03/24/2000
First Named Inventor	Li Zhang
Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	Ana M. Fortuna,
Attorney Docket Number	56246-206 (IOLL-281)

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**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114	Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such		
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>			
<p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed</p> <p>i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply      iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)</p> <p>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)      iv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time</u></p>			
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous	<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>		
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees	<p>The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1133</u></p> <p>i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)</p> <p>ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)</p> <p>iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)</p>		
<p><b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b></p>			

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print / Type)	Mark G. Lappin	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	26,618
Signature		Date	12/17/2003

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Name (Print / Type)	Weiguo Chen	Date	12/17/2003
Signature		Date	12/17/2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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